

Application No.: 10/782,432
Amendment Dated: August 21, 2006
Reply to Office Action Dated: May 19, 2006

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LISTING OF THE CLAIMS

1. (original) A method comprising the steps of:
providing a liquid rubber that has multiple sites of unsaturation;
chemically modifying the liquid rubber's sites of unsaturation to yield alternate functionalities and thereby create a functionalized liquid rubber; and
terminating a metallic or organometallic-initiated living polymer with the functionalized liquid rubber.
2. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein said liquid rubber has been synthesized with at least one conjugated diene monomer.
3. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein said liquid rubber is polybutadiene.
4. (currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said metallic or organometallic-initiated living polymer is a polymeric ~~organo-lithium~~ organo-lithium.
5. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein said metallic or organometallic-initiated living polymer is poly(styryl)lithium or poly(butadienyl)lithium.
6. (cancelled)
7. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein said alternate functionalities are selected from the group consisting of epoxide, maleic anhydride, and alkoxysilane functional groups.

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8. (original) The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of performing hydrolysis on the alternate functionalities to yield hydroxy or carboxy functional groups.

9. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein said liquid rubbers are linear or branched.

Claims 10 to 17, cancelled.